



COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW AND MORE

CHOOSING YOUR SCHOOL

**Best fit,
not brand name**

The bottom of the slide features a decorative design with overlapping geometric shapes. On the left, there is a bright blue triangle pointing towards the center. To its right is a larger, lighter blue triangle pointing towards the left. The remaining area on the right is a solid, medium-blue rectangle.

CHOOSING YOUR SCHOOL


Location: East, West, Midwest, South

- Big city, small town
- **Climate**

CHOOSING YOUR SCHOOL

- **Academics:**
 - Best school for your major
 - Undecided?
 - Student support
- School **size**

CHOOSING YOUR SCHOOL

- Extracurricular activities
 - Sports, music, cultural clubs
 - **Greek Life**
 - Campus **culture**
 - **Tuition** and **scholarships**
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EARLY ACTION/DECISION

- **Early Action (Nov 1):** Not binding, can apply to more than one (except EASC)
- **Early Decision (Nov 1):** Binding, can only apply to one
- **Regular (Jan 1)**
- **Rolling:** apply and get in at any point

THE COMMON APPLICATION

- What is it?
- Who uses it?
 - Over 500 schools
- When do I apply?
- How much does it cost?

THE COMMON APPLICATION

- | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Profile | 1. Official transcripts |
| 2. Family | 2. Letters of recommendation |
| 3. Education | 3. Official test scores |
| 4. Testing | 4. Application Fees |
| 5. Activities | 5. Supplements |
| 6. Writing | |

ESSAYS

- Be **detailed**, not **vague**
- Portray yourself as a **good fit**
- You are **unique**
- Be **concise**
- **EDIT**

STANDARDIZED TESTS

- **SAT (1500/2400)**
 - Score Choice, SuperScore
 - Most students take in Hong Kong
- **SAT Subject Tests (500-600/800)**
 - Not required for every school
 - Take the ones you will do best on
- **TOEFL (120)**
 - Should match your English ability in other areas
 - Check to see if your program requires its own minimum score

GRADES

- **Matters in context of school**
- **Weighed against SAT**
- **Challenging course load makes a difference**

EXTRACURRICULARS

- **Do things you are interested in**
- **Leadership is a bonus**
- **National, provincial level titles**

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Do not fake them!**
- **Most important: teacher/staff member who knows you well**
- **Many colleges also allow extracurricular adults to write for you**
- **Supplement your application**

INTERVIEW

- **Informational, low pressure**
- **English in interview = essay and TOEFL**
- **Dress professionally**

TIMELINE

- Beginning of 高二: start thinking about which colleges you would like to apply to
- Beginning of 高二: consider taking the SAT in October if you are prepared for it
- Middle of 高二: take the SAT a second time in January, May, or June
- Middle of 高二: take the SAT Subject Tests in January, May, or June in subjects you are comfortable with
- End of 高二: ask teachers if they will write recommendation letters for you
- Beginning of 高三: take the SAT/Subject Tests a final time if you are still unsatisfied
- Summer/Beginning of 高三: make a Common App account and start working on essay questions
- Beginning of 高三: check with your teachers to make sure they will be ready to submit recommendation letters if you are applying EA or ED
- 高三 October: be started on your Regular decision applications

GENERAL TIPS

- Have at least one reach, match, and safety school
- Tell your top choice that it is your top choice
- Don't lie about anything
- Present creative materials if you have them
- If you get waitlisted, show the school that you really care about it
- It is OKAY if you don't get into your top choice!

万事俱备，只欠东风！